



STATE SENATOR

TOM

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INFO & NEWS

from the

Indiana Senate

Money-Saving Tips: Conserve Gasoline



Over the past several months, Hoosiers have seen gas prices rise substantially, putting a real strain on budgets.

I have compiled a list of gas saving tips that will help reduce the amount of gas you use.

If you need more information on other gasoline resources, visit the attorney general's website at www.indianaconsumer.com

Drive Sensibly: Speeding, rapid acceleration and braking can lower your gasoline mileage by 33 percent at highway speeds and by 5 percent around town.

Observe the Speed Limit: Each 5 mph you drive over 60 mph is like paying an additional 10 cents per gallon for gasoline.

Avoid Excessive Idling: Idling gets zero gallons per hour, and cars with larger engines generally waste more gas at idle.

Use Cruise Control: Cruise control on the highway helps you maintain a constant speed and will save you gasoline.

Use Overdrive Gears: Using overdrive gearing slows your car's engine speeds, which saves gasoline and reduces engine wear.

Check & Replace Air Filters: Replacing a clogged air filter can improve your car's gas mileage by as much as 10 percent.

Keep Tires Properly Inflated: Keeping your tires inflated to the proper pressures can improve your gas mileage by around 3 percent.

Use Recommended Grade of Motor Oil: Using the manufacturer's recommended grade of motor oil can improve your gas mileage by 1 to 2 percent.



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Serving District 18

Cass, Fulton, Kosciusko, Miami,
Pulaski and Wabash counties.



Sen. Weatherwax (top left) attended the official bill signing for Senate Enrolled Act 353, which establishes a \$50 million tax credit, up from \$20 million, for new ethanol and/or biodiesel production facilities. Sen. Weatherwax was the primary author of the bill.

Did You Know...?

... that the Indiana Senate spent prudently this past year, resulting in a return of \$903,572.84 to the state's General Fund at the end of Fiscal Year 2006? This is more than four times the amount reverted in FY 2005.

Job Creation Legislation Proves Successful

— More jobs for Hoosiers are on the way —

Although the last two legislative sessions have been filled with substantial changes to the way Indiana does business, a priority in the Senate has been job creation. Although government actions cannot create jobs overnight, Indiana is beginning to see results just one year after the major economic development laws of 2005 were implemented.

In 2005, the General Assembly sped up and streamlined the creation of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC), created tax breaks for research and development, passed a shovel-ready site development plan and expanded existing tax credits. The result: 85,000 more Hoosiers are working than in January 2005 and unemployment is at a low 4.9 percent.

More jobs are on the way. Recent job announcements include:

- **Honda announcing a \$550 million plant that will employ 2,000 people in Greensburg (the plant will have capacity for 4,000 employees)**

- **American Commercial Lines agreeing to create 1,100 jobs in Jeffersonville**
- **Federal Express announcing a \$200 million expansion creating 800 new jobs in Indianapolis**
- **Rolls Royce committing to bring 600 aerospace jobs to Indianapolis**
- **Pfizer deciding to create 450 jobs in Terre Haute**
- **American General Financial Services expanding its corporate headquarters to create 150 new jobs in Evansville**
- **Arbonne International opening a 400-employee distribution center in Greenwood.**
- **Nestle selecting Anderson for a 300-job facility**
- **Sallie Mae announcing 700 new jobs in Muncie**

Many other announcements have occurred in the past 18 months, many more are expected in the future, and I am committed to continuing to create a job-friendly environment here in Indiana.

MAJOR MOVES MEANS MAJOR MONEY

District 18 to benefit from lease of Toll Road

On June 28, Indiana closed a lease with Statewide Mobility Partners, which will operate the Indiana Toll Road in exchange for **\$3.8 billion**. That money has been deposited and is currently earning interest at a rate of about **\$500,000 every day**. For an up-to-the-second look at how much interest has been accrued, visit www.in.gov/tos/MajorMoves.htm

All of this money will go toward improving infrastructure in the state of Indiana, and District 6 will see millions of dollars in road improvements in the coming years. In addition to the local projects planned by the Indiana Department of Transportation, the legislature also approved \$150 million in payments to local governments to be used as they see fit.

Here is a breakdown of what the counties in District 18 will receive over just two years:



- **Cass County — \$1,252,600**
- **Fulton County — \$1,081,00**
- **Kosciusko County — \$2,023,500**
- **Miami County — \$1,269,600**
- **Pulaski County — \$1,069,800**
- **Wabash County — \$1,252,600**

As you can see, Major Moves will generate a significant amount of money for our area that will improve the quality of life. I look forward to seeing a lot more orange construction barrels on the streets I represent in the coming years.

Alternative Energy Fuels Indiana's Economy

Indiana is leading the nation in biofuels

Last year, my Clean Indiana Energy bill rapidly advanced Indiana's standing as a leader in new fuel technology. Currently, six ethanol plants have broken ground in Indiana with another 18 on the drawing board.

This is a growing industry. Other states are starting to see the benefits of investing in alternative fuels, which is why I authored Clean Indiana Energy II, Senate Enrolled Act 353. The bill is now law and I would like to my colleagues, Representatives Bill Friend, Eric Gutwein and Rich McClain for their hard work on the bill.

We must ensure Indiana remains a leader in new fuel technology. SEA 353 establishes a \$50 million tax credit, up from \$20 million, for new ethanol and/or biodiesel production facilities. Ethanol production plants cost around \$79 million and upward to build, and they don't receive the tax breaks until they are making a profit in our state. **The new facilities bring over 1.1 billion dollars in new investment in our state.**

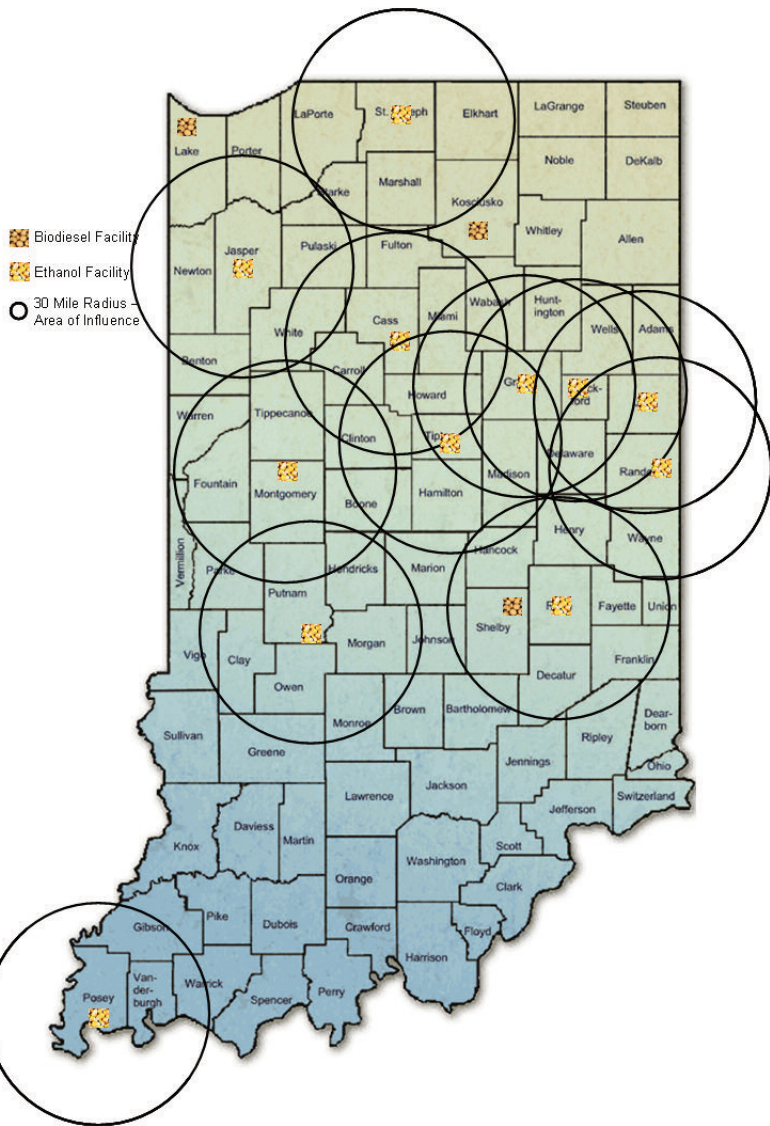
Ethanol and biodiesel production has a very positive impact on Indiana farmers. Indiana is the fifth largest state for corn production and fourth largest in soybeans. These are the two key dynamics associated with ethanol/biodiesel production.

Currently, Indiana sends almost 50 percent of corn and soybean productions out of state with no values added, which is the least profitable form of sale for farmers. It is estimated that farmers contracting with ethanol or biodiesel plants will gain an incremental 15 cents to 20 cents per bushel.

SEA 353 also establishes a "retail tax credit" of 10 cents per gallon up to a maximum of \$2 million over the next two years of E85 fuel sold to consumers. If retailers reach the maximum of the \$2 million credit, then Indiana will have sold over 20 million gallons of E85 in two years. This is a great incentive for retailers to encourage consumers to purchase E85 fuels.

Indiana is leading the nation with the most number of E85 fueling stations. Our goal is to double our current numbers to have 40 E85 fueling stations in the state of Indiana at the end of 2006.

SEA 353 also extends the current B20 retail tax credit through 2010 and requires the Indiana Economic Development Corporation to work with GPS software companies to include E85 fueling stations on GPS software.



On July 10, Martahon Oil and The Andersons, INC jointly announced that the companies have signed a letter of intent form a 50/50 joint venture that would construct and operate a number of ethanol plants. This is an important step in maintaining the reliability of future ethanol supplies.

With this amazing progress in such a short time, I am very encouraged that these proposals can only take us further. I am very proud of the fact that Indiana is leading the nation in this area and this legislation will only add to our advantage. The passage of SEA 353 is great news for our environment and our economy.

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